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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Ryutaro YAMANAKA et al. Confirmation No.: 6967  
Appl. No : 10/748,242 Examiner: M.M. Chaudry  
Filed : December 31, 2003 Group Art Unit : 2133  
For : PROCESSING UNIT AND PROCESSING METHOD

**COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

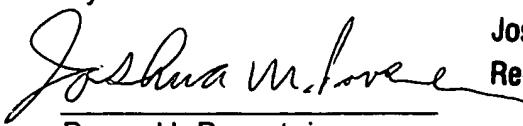
Commissioner for Patents  
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Sir:

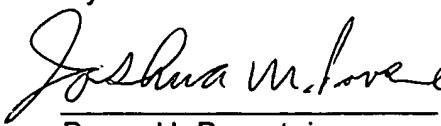
In response to the Notice of Allowability mailed by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on August 31, 2006, and to the Statement of Reasons for Allowance attached thereto, Applicants wish to clarify the record with respect to the basis for the patentability of claims in the present application. In this regard, while Applicants do not disagree with the Examiner's indication that certain identified features are not disclosed by the references, Applicants submit that each of the claims in the present application recite a particular combination of features, and that the basis for patentability of each of these claims is based on the totality of the particular features recited therein.

Should there be any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ryutaro YAMANAKA et al.

  
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October 6, 2006  
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